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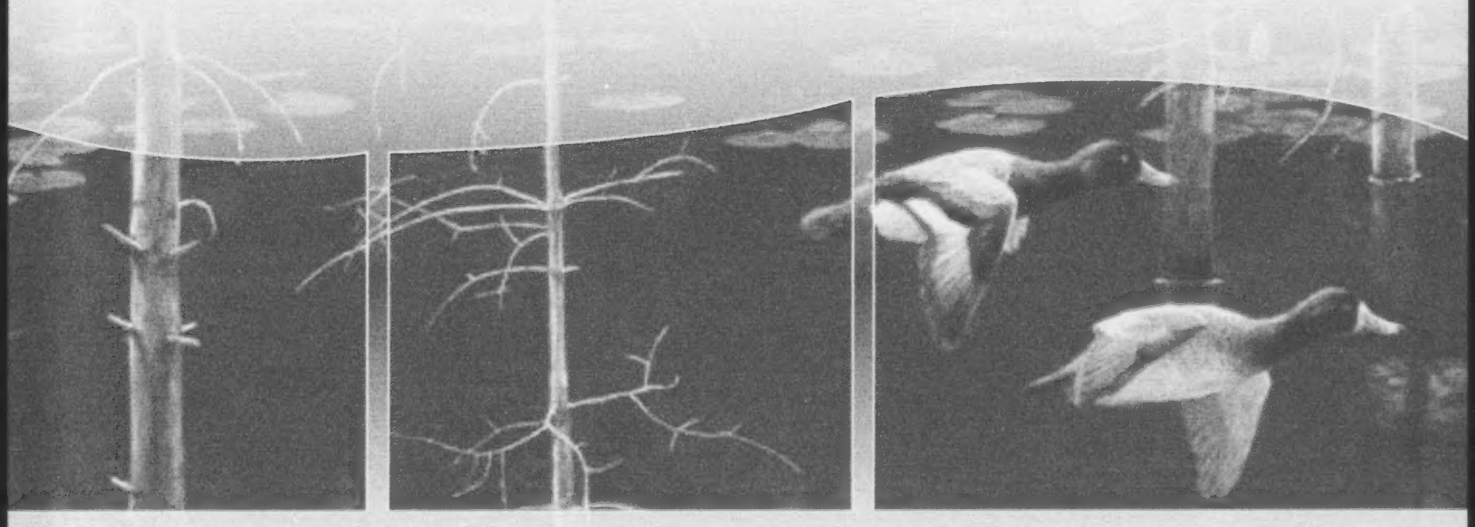
Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations, 2010

Canadian Wildlife Service
Waterfowl Committee

CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Number 29



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The 25th anniversary Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp featuring Lesser Scaup, entitled "*Northern Wetland – Lesser Scaup* ", was created by world renowned Canadian wildlife artist Robert Bateman.

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Editors:

This report was prepared by the Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee, and edited by Renée Bergeron and Kathryn Dickson (CWS, National Office).

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Comments:

Comments regarding this report, the regulation-setting process or other items relating to national migratory game bird concerns should be sent to:

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Region-specific comments should be sent to the appropriate Regional Director, Canadian Wildlife Service, at the following addresses:

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Background

Canadian hunting regulations for migratory game birds are reviewed annually by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories and a range of other interested stakeholders. As part of this process, the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) of Environment Canada produces three reports each year. The first report, issued in December, *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada*, contains population and other biological information on migratory game birds, and thus provides the scientific basis for management. The second report, issued in January, *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations*, outlines the proposed changes to the annual hunting regulations, as well as other proposed amendments to the *Migratory Birds Regulations*. Proposals for hunting regulations are developed in accordance with the *Objectives and Guidelines for the Establishment of National Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Hunting* (see Appendix B of this report). These two documents are distributed to organizations and individuals with an interest in migratory game bird conservation, to provide an opportunity for input into the development of hunting regulations in this country. The third report, *Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations in Canada*, issued in September, summarizes the hunting regulations for the upcoming hunting season.

The process for development of regulations in Canada requires that any changes be in the form of final proposals by early March of each year. That means that regulations must be set without the benefit of knowledge about the breeding conditions and production forecasts of the coming year. This does not usually present difficulties because the hunting regulations are based on trends over several years, but in some cases the results from recent harvest surveys or breeding population surveys conducted in May and June will indicate that changes in the national approach are needed to ensure conservation of migratory game birds. In this case, Environment Canada will process a regulatory amendment and issue a bulletin updating these regulations.

Annual Schedule for the Development of Hunting Regulations

The annual schedule for the development of hunting regulations is based on the requirement to have the annual hunting regulations made into law by early June of each year:

- Early December – *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada* report, containing biological information on migratory game birds, is distributed and posted on the Environment Canada (EC) website by CWS–HQ Population and Conservation Management Division (PCMD).
- November to early December – Jurisdictions develop proposals for hunting regulations in coordination with CWS Regional Directors.
- Early December – CWS Regions provide to CWS–PCMD the proposed changes to hunting regulations (with justifications) for the upcoming year, as well as any other information that should be included in the report on *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations*, including advance notice on items for future years. Descriptions of zone changes are sent by CWS Regions to the Surveyor General of Canada Lands for review, approval and translation.
- End of January – CWS–PCMD distributes the *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations* report containing the regulation proposals to allow for public, inter-regional and international consultation. Consultations are held in February.
- February 26 – Replies from consultations are due at CWS Regional Directors' offices, which then ensure distribution to the provinces and territories.
- End February to early March – CWS Regions work with the provinces and territories to finalize regulation proposals following the public consultation period.
- Early March – Final proposals, as well as the final text of the regulations and regulation summaries, are sent by CWS Regional Directors to CWS–HQ Conservation Service Delivery and Permitting Division (CSDP).
- March through May – CWS–CSDP prepares legal documents and obtains approvals of the regulatory proposals.
- Early June – Hunting regulations become law.
- Mid July – Hunting regulation summaries are available at Canada Post outlets and on the EC website.
- Early September – CWS–PCMD distributes the July report containing the final proposals for hunting regulations and the hunting regulation summaries.

American Black Duck Harvest Strategy

Progress on the development of an international American Black Duck harvest strategy based on the principles of adaptive harvest management has been published in previous CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports. To summarize, in fall 2004, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and CWS agreed to work towards finalizing an adaptive harvest management approach to determine appropriate levels of harvest for American Black Ducks in Canada and the U.S., based on breeding ground survey information. Models were initially based on wintering ground surveys, but they are currently being revised to include breeding pair information.

Meanwhile, Canada and the U.S. (including CWS, USFWS, eastern provinces and states of the Atlantic and Mississippi Flyways) have continued to work on an interim international harvest strategy. An agreement was reached in early summer of 2008 to adopt a strategy that will be employed by both countries over the next three hunting seasons (2008–2009 to 2010–2011), while allowing time for the continued development of a formal strategy based on the principles of adaptive harvest management.

The interim harvest strategy is prescriptive, in that it calls for no substantive changes in hunting regulations unless the Black Duck breeding population, averaged over the most recent three years, exceeds or falls below the long-term average breeding population by 15 percent or more (the long-term average breeding population is defined as the average composite estimate for the entire survey area between 1998 and 2007 inclusive). It allows additional harvest opportunity (commensurate with the population increase) if the three-year average breeding population exceeds the long-term average by 15 percent or more, and requires reduction of harvest opportunity if the three-year average falls below the long-term average by 15 percent or more. The strategy is designed to share the Black Duck harvest equally between the two countries; however, recognizing incomplete control of harvest through regulations, it allows realized harvest in either country to vary between 40 and 60 percent. We have adopted this interim international Black Duck harvest strategy for the 2008–2009, 2009–2010 and 2010–2011 seasons.

The American Black Duck Harvest Strategy Working Group will continue to keep the appropriate regulatory consultative bodies in Canada and the U.S. informed of progress as tools are developed for implementation of adaptive harvest management for American Black Ducks. More details on the adaptive management study can be found on the following website: http://coopunit.forestry.uga.edu/blackduck.

Growth Rates in North American Goose Populations

(Kathryn Dickson, CWS, National Office – reprinted from CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Number 27, July 2009)

Populations of many North American goose species have been growing rapidly over recent decades. This pattern has been well-described for mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese (*Chen caerulescens caerulescens*) and Greater Snow Geese (*Chen caerulescens atlantica*) (Batt 1997; Batt 1998) two populations which in 1999 were designated to be overabundant (http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/mbc-com/default.asp?lang=en&n=62F2AA13). In this case, the populations had become so large that unsustainable levels of foraging were adversely affecting key habitats for migratory birds and other wildlife. Left unchecked, overabundant snow goose populations were judged likely to become seriously injurious to their own long-term survival and to that of other migratory birds, compromising the biological diversity of the arctic ecosystem. The overabundance designation meant that the responsible agencies in Canada and the United States have been able to work at controlling the goose numbers by using extraordinary means to encourage hunters to increase their harvest to two or three times the previous level (see section regarding Management of Overabundant Snow Geese, this report).

The rapid growth of the Snow Goose populations is explained by three key factors. First among these is the steady increase in quantity and quality of foods available on the migration areas and wintering grounds over recent decades, to the point where food resources over winter and during migration are no longer limiting. The increase in food availability is described in detail in Jefferies *et al.* (2003), who discuss the evolution of rice cultivation in the southern United States, the spread of corn fields with their spilled grains and the increasing yields brought about through use of more and better fertilizers. Geese have adapted to this altered landscape by increasing their feeding in agricultural fields and reducing their use of natural marshes. This behavior has allowed them to better survive over winter, return to the breeding grounds in better condition, and thus produce more young (Abraham *et al.* 1996). Secondly, the establishment of refugia (National Wildlife Refuges in the U.S., National Wildlife Areas in Canada, sanctuaries, etc.) and thirdly, the inability of hunting to maintain a

sufficiently high harvest rate have also contributed to the very high survival rates now enjoyed by Snow Geese (Abraham *et al.* 1996).

In addition to the factors above is the effect that climate change may have on goose populations, particularly those which breed in the Arctic, where the production of young is heavily dependent on the weather conditions. Production is highest when the snow melts early and temperatures are relatively mild through brood-rearing and fledging. In very cold years with a delayed spring, geese may forgo nesting altogether. For example, the Lesser Snow Goose population nesting on Wrangel Island, Russia, was reduced by two thirds in the 1970s as a result of four consecutive late springs, while the same population has more than doubled in recent years because of relatively good weather and associated high annual recruitment (S. Boyd, pers. comm.). Based on this, it might be predicted that climate change could lead to higher productivity for this and other goose populations. Alternatively, there is recent evidence from Alaska to suggest that climate change would affect the species composition of the plant community, resulting in greater biomass but poorer-quality foods for geese (Schmutz *et al.* 2008) that could have negative effects on survival and productivity.

It is not surprising that several goose species are benefitting from the increase in resources provided by the agricultural landscape. High population growth rates have also been estimated for Lesser Snow Geese of Canada's western arctic, Ross's Geese (*Chen rossii*) and temperate-breeding Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*). In the latter case, not only has the agricultural landscape provided higher-quality foods, but the conversion of forests to open agricultural lands and even to urban lands, particularly those close to water, has created safe nesting and brood-rearing sites (Hughes 2009). As Van Eerden *et al.* (1996) stated, the increased dependence of waterfowl on agricultural food tends also to lead to increasing numbers of conflicts with people, and damage to property and crops.

The pattern of landscape change in North America parallels that observed in Europe over the past couple of centuries, where the clearing of forests and draining of wetlands to produce cultivated lands began to intensify as early as 1000 A.D. (Van Eerden *et al.* 1996). The widespread application of nitrogen-based fertilizers increased plant production and extended the growing season. Van Eerden *et al.* (1996) reported that the habit of geese feeding on improved pastures and crops became established in the Netherlands by 1400 A.D., and that once established, the tradition of feeding on certain food appears to be maintained in the population. Their review concluded that all goose species (and two species of swans) now rely heavily (at least five months per year) on agricultural lands for overwintering in the Netherlands—these are Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*), Bean Goose (*Anser fabalis*), White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*), Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*), Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) and Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla*)—and that all species increased in abundance between the 1960s and 1990s (Van Eerden *et al.* 1996). The increases in abundance are due to the favourable landscape conditions as well as to a significant reduction in harvest mortality which took place during the same period (Van Eerden *et al.* 1996).

In contrast to the situation in northern Europe, where the abundance of all goose species has responded positively to landscape changes by capitalizing on agricultural food availability, some North American species have not reaped the benefits. For example, neither subspecies of Brant (*Branta bernicla hrota* and *Branta bernicla nigricans*) has begun using agricultural landscapes to any great extent, and for the most part remain restricted to natural marshes. Their relatively small populations as estimated during winter surveys appear to be rather stable (CWS Waterfowl Committee, 2008). In addition, hunters continue to harvest Brant at relatively high harvest rates controlled under management plans (e.g. Atlantic Flyway Council 2002).

It might be expected that Cackling Geese (*Branta hutchinsii*) would also capitalize on the present agricultural landscape. This species occupies much of the same breeding, migration and wintering area as Lesser Snow Geese but has not shown the same increase in abundance and appears to be held in check by sufficiently high harvest rates. However, the quality of abundance estimates for this species is poor.

Until recently, the abundance of Mid-continent Greater White-fronted Geese (*Anser albifrons*) followed a pattern of continued increase. Based on winter counts, the population increased dramatically from 12 000 in the 1950s to 140 000 in 1995 (Abraham and Jefferies 1997). Recognizing that its numbers were likely underestimated, and that it might more accurately be counted on the fall staging area, a new survey was initiated in 1992 in southern Saskatchewan and Alberta (Nieman and Gollop 1993). Since then, that survey has shown a fluctuating but stable population of between 600 000 and 1 million birds (Warner *et al.* 2008).

Why has the population of White-fronted Geese recently stopped growing? This too appears related to more recent changes in the agricultural

landscape. Recent evidence reported by Pearse *et al.* (submitted) reported that in the late 1990s the geese had greatly reduced the accumulation of fats on the key spring staging area in Nebraska, in comparison to the late 1970s. This is because much less corn is now grown in that area (Krapu *et al.* 2004). Instead, the birds now spend several weeks in southern Saskatchewan feeding on pulse crops, which Pearse *et al.* (submitted) showed did not make up the deficit in fat storage. This deficit could reduce the subsequent reproductive success; age ratios in the harvest are now much lower than they were formerly (D. Nieman, pers. comm.). Pearse *et al.* (submitted) also suggested other factors potentially related to this shift in spring staging distribution, such as an earlier migration schedule and increased competition with Lesser Snow Geese staging in Nebraska.

In addition, the tight family bonds of White-fronted Geese render the species relatively easy to decoy and so remain very susceptible to hunting mortality. Alisauskas *et al.* (2009) estimated adult harvest rates through 2004 for White-fronted Geese to be about twice those estimated for Lesser Snow Geese or Ross's Geese, and about the same as for Greater Snow Geese. Continued high harvest rates and reduced production may be preventing White-fronted Geese from increasing rapidly.

In general the goose populations of North America are strongly influenced by the distribution and quality of winter foods. The present quantity of high-quality food is contributing to the rapid increase in abundance of several populations, in some cases beyond desirable limits. Whether or not special management actions will be required in future to reduce damage and conflicts is not known. As indicated by Garrott *et al.* (1993), there is certainly a need to work diligently to stop the declines of rare species, but we must also act to address conservation issues that concern common and overabundant species, and further,acting to address overabundance is sometimes necessary despite the unpopular fact that it may be necessary to remove animals. Our experience with Snow Geese suggests that we need to carefully monitor the abundance of North American goose populations and implement prescriptions before they increase beyond our ability to manage and control.

Management of Overabundant Snow Geese

Issue

The rapid growth of most Snow Goose populations is of great concern. A decade ago, comprehensive assessments of the environmental effects of the rapidly growing populations of mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese and Greater Snow Geese were completed by working groups of Canadian and American scientists. Their analyses are contained in the reports entitled *Arctic Ecosystems in Peril – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group* (Batt 1997) and *The Greater Snow Goose – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group* (Batt 1998). These working groups concluded that the increase in Snow Goose populations was primarily human induced. Improved farming practices supplying a steady food source along with the safety of refuges have resulted in increased survival and reproductive rates in Snow Geese. These populations have become so large that they are affecting the plant communities at staging areas and breeding grounds on which they and other species rely. Grazing and grubbing by geese not only permanently removes vegetation, but also changes soil salinity, nitrogen dynamics and moisture levels. The result is the alteration or elimination of the plant communities, which in all likelihood will not be restored. Although the Arctic is vast, the areas that support migrating and breeding geese and other companion species are limited in extent and some areas are likely to become inhospitable for decades. Increasing crop damage is also an important consequence of the growing Snow Goose populations.

Increasing numbers of spring migrant Greater Snow Geese are being observed on the tidal marsh habitats in and around Restigouche County, New Brunswick. CWS, in concert with the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources, is continuing to examine the possibility of establishing special conservation measures in New Brunswick to assist efforts already in place in Quebec to curtail the rapid population growth and reduce the population size of Greater Snow Geese. A similar situation is occurring at the western edge of the spring staging range on agricultural lands of eastern Ontario. CWS, in concert with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, is also examining the possibility of establishing special conservation measures for snow geese.

Regulation

Several concurrent management measures are being undertaken to curtail the rapid population growth and reduce population size to a level consistent with the carrying capacity of the habitat. One measure attempts to increase the mortality rate of Snow Geese by two to three times the rate achieved prior to the introduction of special conservation measures. Beginning in 1999, an amendment to the *Migratory Birds Regulations*

created special conditions under which hunters were encouraged to take overabundant species for conservation reasons and, in some cases and subject to specific controls, to use exceptional methods and equipment such as electronic calls and bait. The 1999 and 2000 regulations applied in selected areas of Quebec and Manitoba. Beginning in spring 2001, special conservation measures were also implemented in Saskatchewan and Nunavut. The dates and locations of application of these special conservation measures were determined in consultation with the provincial governments, other organizations and local communities.

Evaluation

Scientific studies are being implemented to track progress toward the goals of reduced population growth and, ultimately, recovery by plant communities.

For Lesser Snow Geese, the original objectives were to increase the continental harvest to approximately 0.8 to 1.2 million birds annually (Rockwell *et al.* 1997). These projections were later challenged as being too conservative, and annual harvest requirements of 1.4 to 3.4 million birds were projected on the basis of updated information (Cooke *et al.* 2000; Rockwell and Ankney 2000).

An evaluation of the effectiveness of the special measures for mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese is being finalized. Overall, the balance of evidence favoured the conclusion that the midcontinent population has not declined as a result of the conservation measure, but instead has continued to grow, although perhaps at a reduced rate (Alisauskas *et al.* [submitted]). The authors concluded that the weighted survival probability for midcontinent Snow Geese essentially did not change between the period preceding the conservation measures (1989–1997), and during the conservation measures themselves (1998–2006). They estimated low harvest rates which increased from 0.024 during 1989–1997 for the most northern of the Arctic colonies geese to only 0.027 during 1998–2006, and from 0.031 to only 0.037 for the more southern Arctic colonies. Alisauskas *et al.* (submitted) concluded that the annual harvest did increase as a result of the conservation measures but failed to exceed 1 million adults in any year during the assessment period from 1989 to 2006.

In the case of Greater Snow Geese, the population objective adopted by the North American Waterfowl Management Plan is 500 000 birds, or about one-half of the nearly 1.0 million birds present in 1999. A recent evaluation demonstrated that special measures (for which the spring season was key) were successful in reducing the annual survival rate for adults from about 83 percent to about 72.5 percent (Calvert *et al.* 2007). This was reflected in the spring counts, which until recently indicated that the population had stabilized at about 1 million birds; however, in 2009 the estimate leapt to 1.4 million birds.

Models show that without a spring harvest, the population would quickly begin to grow rapidly once more (Gauthier and Reed 2007) as a result of climatic changes that favour good breeding conditions in the Arctic as well as improved feeding conditions (corn and other crops) on wintering and staging grounds. At the same time, it appears that the harvest in Canada has been maximized. Beginning in 2009 the eastern United States were permitted to harvest additional Greater Snow Geese under a special Conservation Order. A report of the Snow Goose, Brant and Swan Committee (2009) of the Atlantic Flyway Council estimated that about 24 000 Greater Snow Geese were taken during the conservation measures in the United States. Whether this additional harvest pressure will be sufficient to bring the population under control remains to be seen.

Canada's strategic plan for the 2005–2010 period lays out key directions for management of Greater Snow Geese (Bélanger and Lefebvre 2006). Among these are the following: maintain a good quality long-term survey to estimate the size of the continental population; monitor the response of the population to management measures; achieve the necessary harvest rates in Quebec; work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state governments toward increasing the harvest of Greater Snow Geese on wintering grounds in the United States; maintain good quality breeding and staging habitats in Quebec; maximize bird watching and hunting opportunities; and review crop damage prevention and compensation programs.

Regulation for 2010–2011

The special measures to be implemented in spring 2010 will be posted on the CWS website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/publications/reg/abund_e.cfm and are shown in Appendix A of this report.

CWS fixed the dates for special conservation measures in the Manitoba and Saskatchewan spring hunts for mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese for the period from 2007–2008 to 2010–2011. This means that the regulations that have been in effect since spring 2008 will remain in effect for spring 2010. Similarly no changes will be made in Quebec or Nunavut in spring 2010. However, we are now

providing advance notice of a proposal to permit the taking of snow geese beginning March 1 (rather than April 1) in Quebec in 2011. Similarly, New Brunswick and Ontario are also considering proposals to implement special conservation measures in the near future (see the following section).

Proposed Changes to Hunting Regulations for the 2010–2011 Season

CWS and the provinces and territories have jointly developed the regulatory proposals presented here. Other proposals consistent with these may be sent to the appropriate CWS Regional Director by any interested organization or individual. To facilitate the comparison of changes proposed in this text with current regulations, the summaries of the 2009 *Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations* are included in Appendix D.

Newfoundland and Labrador

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2010–2011 season. However, the CWS is currently considering two amendments which may be proposed in 2011–2012:

Hunting zones

The first modification being considered is to split the Northern Coastal Zone at Cape Bauld to create a new coastal zone along the northwestern tip of the Northern Peninsula. The sea duck hunting season would be shifted to open and close earlier within this newly created zone.

Murre hunting

The second modification being considered would allow better access to murre hunting within the Green Bay area of Murre Hunting Zone 2. Hunters see few murres during the current murre hunting season, and have requested an adjustment in the Zone 2 season dates to allow access to murres which occur there later in January and early February. The suggestion under consideration is to delay the opening and closing dates of the murre hunting season within the murre Hunting Zone 2 by about two weeks.

To evaluate the two regulatory suggestions the CWS will undertake a special hunter opinion survey during the winter of 2009–2010, and if necessary will hold public meetings to discuss hunters' concerns. Migratory bird hunters in Newfoundland and Labrador are encouraged to participate in the survey and to contact the CWS office with any comments or concerns regarding these proposals.

Prince Edward Island

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2010–2011 season.

Nova Scotia

Canada Geese

It is proposed that an early September Canada Goose season be opened in Nova Scotia (all zones). This amendment will help to reduce nuisance and crop depredation problems associated with Canada Geese from introduced flocks. Similar seasons are currently in place in other provinces in Canada (including New Brunswick) and have been considered at least partially effective in controlling population growth for temperate-breeding Canada Geese. Spring surveys conducted annually to estimate numbers of waterfowl breeding in the Maritime provinces have identified a 10-fold increase in the abundance of breeding Canada Geese over the past 15 years.

Seasons would occur before most migrant geese arrive in Nova Scotia and as such would increase harvest pressure on locally breeding geese only. In order to prevent disturbance to other waterfowl, hunting during the September Canada Goose season would be restricted to farmland only. A bag and possession limit of 8 and 16 birds respectively (during the early September Canada Goose season only) is proposed.

In 2010, it is proposed that the early September Canada Goose season in Nova Scotia would open on the Tuesday following Labour Day and continue for 11 consecutive days (inclusive of opening day).

Streamlining regulations

It is proposed to simplify the *Migratory Game Birds Hunting Regulations* in Nova Scotia. To this end a review of species clusters, season dates and zones was undertaken. As a result of this review, we are proposing to amalgamate the existing "additional seasons" into one, with consistent season dates by zone. At the same time, the additional seasons currently in place for scaup would be revoked.

The result of this change would see additional seasons in zone 2 for Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed ducks, eiders, scoters, goldeneyes and Bufflehead that would begin on 1 October 2010, ending on 7 October 2010; beginning again on 1 January 2011, ending on 7 January 2011.

In zone 3, additional seasons for Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed ducks, eiders, scoters, goldeneyes and Bufflehead that would begin on 1 January 2011 and end on 7 January 2011.

In order to provide adequate protection to scoters, the bag and possession limits for scoters would be reduced to four birds in the daily bag, and eight birds in possession, as is currently the situation in adjacent Maritime provinces.

There would continue to be no additional seasons for ducks in zone 1.

New Brunswick

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2010–2011 season.

Special conservation measures for Snow Geese

A notice of intent is given that special conservation measures to permit the take of Snow Geese by hunters in spring is proposed for north-western New Brunswick, beginning in March 2012. These special measures have been in effect in Quebec since 1999. In New Brunswick, the special measures are anticipated to be limited to Restigouche Co. (in whole, or in part), where surveys have shown increasing use of tidal habitats by Greater Snow Geese during spring. Expanding the special conservation measures into north-western New Brunswick would provide additional opportunity to manage this overabundant species through hunting.

Quebec

Harmonization of species names with Ontario

It is proposed to replace "Gallinules" in the English version of tables 1 and 2 of Schedule 1 by "Moorhens." This change would harmonize nomenclature for this species in Quebec with the one in Ontario.

No-hunting zones

In hunting district F, it is proposed to clarify the boundaries of the Nicolet no-hunting zone in hunting district F by the addition of geographical coordinates. This sector is located in the St. Lawrence River to the northwest of the property belonging to the Department of National Defence (DND) near the town of Nicolet, Province of Quebec. It includes open water and marshes inside a line between the battery #5 (46.22524 N and -72.67118 W) and the Longue Pointe called OP-6 (46.17162 N and -72.74956 W) on DND's property, to the limit of the Nicolet Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

Snow Geese

There are two amendments proposed to contribute to the success of the special conservation measures to control the population growth of Greater Snow Geese:

1) **It is proposed** to change the opening date of the Spring Conservation Season from April 1 to March 1, beginning in March 2011. This change will create more opportunities for hunters in southwestern portions of Quebec.

2) The current requirement to use only white phase snow goose decoys when using electronic calls is proposed to be changed to permit the use of white and blue phase snow goose decoys. This proposal would harmonize regulations with those in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta wherein the use of white and blue phase snow goose decoys is allowed.

Field studies have demonstrated that the use of electronic Snow Goose calls during seasons that are open for dark geese (Canada Geese and White-Fronted Geese) does not result in the increased harvest of dark geese.

Ontario

Harmonization and simplification of species names

It is proposed to replace "Gallinules poule-d'eau" in the French version of tables 1 and 2 of Schedule 1 by "Gallinules." This change would harmonize nomemclature for this species in Ontario with that in Quebec.

It is proposed to remove the word "American" from the name American Coot and the word "Common" from the names Common Snipe and Common Moorhen in Table 1 and Table 2 of Schedule 1. These changes would simplify the regulations without any consequences as there is only one species each of coot, snipe and moorhen present in Ontario.

Harmonization of bag and possession limits for Common Moorhen and American Coot with adjacent provinces

It is proposed to reduce the daily bag limits for American Coot and Common Moorhen. The daily bag limit for American Coot will be reduced from 10 to 8 birds in 2010. This change would harmonize the daily bag limit for American Coot in Ontario with that in Manitoba.

It is proposed that the daily bag limit for Common Moorhen be reduced from 10 to 4 birds in 2010. This change would harmonize the daily

bag limit for Common Moorhen in Ontario with that in Quebec. The Common Moorhen is not present in Canada west of Ontario.

Increase the possession limit to three times the daily bag limit for migratory game birds

It is proposed to increase possession limits to three times the daily bag limit for all species of migratory game birds that do not already have a possession limit equal to or higher than three times the daily bag.

This change is intended to increase opportunities for hunters who might otherwise be forced to stop hunting, or to gift their birds in order to continue hunting, after as few as two days.

A similar measure has been proposed in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba in an effort to increase consistency as much as possible in areas with similar waterfowl hunting opportunities.

This change is expected to have little effect on harvests of waterfowl in Ontario. It is unlikely that possession limits currently restrict harvest to a significant degree, because (1) a relatively small proportion of hunters harvest more than a possession limit of ducks or geese over the course of an entire season, (2) gifting of migratory game birds is legal, so successful hunters have the option of giving birds away in order to continue hunting, and (3) previous experience (e.g., for Canada/cackling geese in Manitoba) suggests that increasing possession limits will not affect overall harvest. In short, this proposal will allow successful hunters to retain more of the birds that they harvest without adversely affecting waterfowl populations, and may increase opportunities for some hunters, many of whom hunt for only a short period of time.

Effects of the proposed change will be evaluated by continuing to monitor hunter numbers and harvests of all migratory game birds. There are no known resource implications to wildlife management agencies in Ontario.

Special conservation measures for Snow Geese

A notice of intent is given that special conservation measures to permit the taking of Snow Geese by hunters in spring is proposed to be put in place in eastern Ontario beginning in March 2012. These special measures have been in effect in Quebec since 1999. In Ontario, the special measures will be limited to Wildlife Management Unit 65 where recent surveys have shown that approximately 5–10 percent of the Greater Snow Goose population now stages during the spring. Expanding the special conservation measures into eastern Ontario will provide additional opportunity to manage this overabundant species through hunting.

Manitoba

Standardize possession limits for migratory birds

It is proposed to increase possession limits to three times the daily bag limit for all species of migratory game birds, except for white geese (Lesser Snow and Ross's), which will remain at four times the daily bag limit.

This change is intended to increase opportunities for hunters who might otherwise be forced to stop hunting, or to gift their birds in order to continue hunting, after as few as two days.

A similar measure has been proposed in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario in an effort to increase consistency as much as possible in areas with similar waterfowl hunting opportunities.

This change is expected to have a negligible effect on harvest of migratory birds in Manitoba, because 1) the possession limit proposed is already permitted for dark geese (Canada and Cackling) in Manitoba, 2) a relatively small proportion (~21 percent) of hunters currently harvest a possession limit (16) or more of ducks over the course of the season in Manitoba, 3) harvest of Sandhill Cranes, American Coots, and Wilson's Snipe remains small in Manitoba and relatively insignificant to their population status, and 4) gifting of migratory game birds is legal, so successful hunters have the option of giving birds away in order to continue hunting.

Effects of the proposed change will be evaluated by continuing to monitor hunter numbers and harvest of all migratory game birds in Manitoba. There are no known resource implications to wildlife management agencies in Manitoba.

Canada and Cackling Geese

It is proposed that the *Migratory Birds Regulations* be amended to increase the daily bag limit of Canada and Cackling Geese from five to eight throughout the province for all Canadian residents. The proposed change will provide Canadian residents with opportunity to increase their daily harvest of Canada and Cackling Geese, numbers of which have been either increasing (Temperate Nesting Population and Tall Grass Prairie Population) or stable (Eastern Prairie Population) in recent years. The change will also harmonize Canada and Cackling goose bag limits (for Canadian residents) with Saskatchewan and Alberta.

This change is expected to have only a small effect on Canada and Cackling goose harvest in Manitoba because 1) Canadian residents only

partially influence harvest in Manitoba because non-Canadians account for 44–53 percent of the total annual goose harvest, 2) Canadian residents only harvest an average of 6–9 Canada/Cackling geese per season in Manitoba, and very few (8-12 percent) harvest a possession limit (15) or more of any geese in an entire season, 3) average annual Canada/Cackling goose harvest per Canadian hunter in Manitoba is similar to that in Saskatchewan and Alberta where bag limits are currently higher and opportunity similar, 4) Canada/Cackling goose harvest increased only slightly since the same regulation change occurred in Alberta and Saskatchewan in 1996 and 1998, respectively, and is probably more related to increasing goose populations and hunting opportunity because harvest in Manitoba (with relatively stable regulations) has also increased during this time, and 5) from 2004–2008, a bag limit of eight Canada/Cackling geese instead of five increased resident harvest by only 3 percent in Saskatchewan, where harvest opportunity is similar.

Effects of the proposed change will be evaluated by continuing to monitor hunter numbers and Canada/Cackling goose harvest by Canadian residents, and the status of populations of Canada/Cackling geese that are harvested in Manitoba. There are no known resource implications to wildlife management agencies in Manitoba.

Standardized season opening date for non-residents

It is proposed that the *Migratory Birds Regulations* be amended to set 1) the opening date of the non-resident White Goose (Lesser Snow and Ross's Geese) hunting season to September 17 in GBHZ 3 and 4, and 2) the opening date of the non-resident season for all other migratory game birds to September 24, in GBHZ 3 and 4.

The proposed change will complete the process of standardizing the opening dates of all migratory game bird hunting seasons in Manitoba, which will further improve regulation clarity and promote ease of understanding by hunters and outfitters. No changes in harvest or participation are expected to occur as a result of this change. There are no known resource implications to wildlife management agencies in Manitoba.

Saskatchewan

Increase to a possession limit of three times the bag for all migratory game birds

It is proposed to increase possession limits to three times the daily bag limit for all species of migratory game birds.

This change is intended to increase opportunities for hunters who might otherwise be forced to stop hunting, or to gift their birds in order to continue hunting, after as few as two days. Non-resident hunters in Saskatchewan commonly hunt for at least three days.

A similar measure has been proposed in Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario in an effort to increase consistency as much as possible in areas with similar waterfowl hunting opportunities, and is supported by outfitters associations from each of the provinces.

This change is expected to have little effect on harvests of waterfowl in Saskatchewan. It is unlikely that possession limits currently restrict harvest to a significant degree, because (1) a relatively small proportion of hunters harvest more than a possession limit of ducks or geese over the course of a season, (2) gifting of migratory game birds is legal, so successful hunters have the option of giving birds away in order to continue hunting, and (3) previous experience (e.g., for Canada/cackling geese in Manitoba) suggests that increasing possession limits will not affect overall harvest. In short, this proposal will allow successful hunters to retain more of the birds that they harvest without adversely affecting waterfowl populations, and may increase opportunities for some hunters, particularly non-residents, most of whom hunt for only a short period of time.

Effects of the proposed change will be evaluated by continuing to monitor hunter numbers and harvests of all migratory game birds. There are no known resource implications to wildlife management agencies in Saskatchewan.

Harmonizing regulations

It is proposed to add "Cackling" under the heading "dark geese" in Table 1 and Table 2 of Schedule 1. This proposal will make the regulations consistent with those in other provinces.

Alberta

Increase to a possession limit of three times the bag for all migratory game birds

It is proposed to increase possession limits to three times the daily bag limit for all species of migratory game birds.

This change is intended to increase opportunities for hunters who might otherwise be forced to stop hunting, or to gift their birds in order to continue hunting, after as few as two days. Non-resident hunters commonly hunt for at least three days.

A similar measure has been proposed in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario in an effort to increase consistency as much as possible in areas with similar waterfowl hunting opportunities.

This change is expected to have little effect on harvests of waterfowl. It is unlikely that possession limits currently restrict harvest to a significant degree, because (1) a relatively small proportion of hunters harvest more than a possession limit of ducks or geese over the course of a season, (2) gifting of migratory game birds is legal, so successful hunters have the option of giving birds away in order to continue hunting, and (3) previous experience (e.g., for Canada/cackling geese in Manitoba) suggests that increasing possession limits will not affect overall harvest. In short, this proposal will allow successful hunters to retain more of the birds that they harvest without adversely affecting waterfowl populations, and may increase opportunities for some hunters, particularly non-residents, most of whom hunt for only a short period of time.

Effects of the proposed change will be evaluated by continuing to monitor hunter numbers and harvests of all migratory game birds. There are no known resource implications to wildlife management agencies in Alberta.

American Coots and Common Snipe

To align regulations with other migratory birds, **it is proposed** to reduce the daily bag limit for coot and snipe to 8, with 24 in possession (as per aforementioned proposal)

There is a priority to simplify and condense hunting regulations in Alberta. As coot and snipe are migratory, their seasons parallel that of ducks and geese. Because of this and that most are harvested opportunistically by duck hunters, it would be logical to align daily bag and possession limits as well.

Harmonizing regulations

It is proposed to add "Cackling" under the heading "dark geese" in Table 1 and Table 2 of Schedule 1. This proposal will make the regulations consistent with those in other provinces.

British Columbia

Snow Goose

It is proposed that Lesser Snow Goose bag and possession limits in Management Unit (MU) 2-5 be increased to 10 and 20 respectively. This proposal corrects an administrative oversight from previous years.

In March 2007, the British Columbia Wildlife Directors recommended that Snow Goose bag and possession limits be increased in Region 2 (Management Unit's 2-4 and 2-5) in response to the exponential growth of the population, safety concerns at the Vancouver International Airport and damages to the Fraser River delta marshes. The CWS December 2007 Regulatory Report captured the intent that the regulatory change apply to all of Region 2 open to Snow Goose but the *Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations* published in 2008 and 2009 made no mention of Management Unit 2-5. This administrative update will clarify the intent and content of the regulation while facilitating wildlife enforcement work.

Bag and possession limits for geese

A clarification is needed in the *Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations* that the Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Brant and Cackling and White-Fronted Goose bag and possession limits are separate from one another. This is important to clarify to support the need to increase harvest of Snow Geese and Canada Geese while restricting the Brant harvest. There are proposed changes to the regulation to clearly separate bag and possession limits for each goose species and to indicate the species and locations where aggregate bag and possession limits apply. This administrative update will clarify the intent and content of the regulation while facilitating wildlife enforcement work.

It is proposed that new columns in the Bags/Possession limits in the British Columbia table be created to read:

White Geese (Snow and Ross's Geese)
Daily Bags 5, 10 (m)
Possession 10, 20 (m)
(m) For Snow Goose only and in MU 2-4 and MU 2-5 only.

Brant
Daily Bags 2 (g)
Possession 4 (h)
(g) Not more than two may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
(h) Not more than two may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.

Canada, Cackling and White-fronted Goose
Daily Bags 5 (n)
Possession 10 (o)
(n) The aggregate daily bag limit for Canada, Cackling and White-fronted Goose is five, except

in MUs 2-2 to 2-4, 2-8, 2-18 and 2-19 where five Canada geese may be taken in addition to any other species of geese taken in Region 2.

(o) The aggregate possession limit for Canada, Cackling and White-fronted Goose is 10, except in MUs 2-2 to 2-4, 2-8, 2-18 and 2-19 where 10 Canada geese may be taken in addition to any other species of geese taken in Region 2.

Waterfowler Heritage Days

For Hunting District 7A, Waterfowler Heritage Days for Ducks, Snow and Ross's Geese and Other Geese are proposed for the second weekend (and not the second two-day weekend) of September each year for MUs 7-2 to 7-18 & 7-23 to 7-30 and 7-37 to 7-41.

For Hunting District 7B, Waterfowler Heritage Days for Ducks, Snow and Ross's Geese and Other Geese are proposed for 1 and 2 September each year for MUs 7-19 to 7-22, 7-31 to 7-36 and 7-42 to 7-58.

Yukon Territory

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2010–2011 season.

Northwest Territories

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2010–2011 season.

Nunavut

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2010–2011 season.

Updates to the Migratory Birds Regulations

Hunting From a Vehicle for Mobility-Impaired Hunters

The Regulations Amending the *Migratory Birds Regulations* (Mobility-impaired Hunting) came into force on September 9, 2009, and allow mobility-impaired hunters to use motorized vehicles to hunt migratory birds in provinces that also permit the use of motorized vehicles.

If a provincial permit is in place that assesses mobility to the same standard and a provincial permit shows the mobility-impairment, then no medical certificate is required. If, however, the province allows the mobility-impaired hunter to hunt from a motorized vehicle but does not have the same standard, the hunter requires a medical certificate.

This amendment aligns the federal hunting regulation with hunting regulations of provinces and territories so that mobility-impaired hunters within a jurisdiction will be treated equally by federal, provincial and territorial governments.

For further information, please see Annex C.

Government of Canada Allowing the Temporary Possession of Dead Migratory Birds

The Government of Canada wants to inform the public of a variance to paragraph 6(*b*) of the *Migratory Birds Regulations*, to allow for the temporary possession of found dead migratory birds, which is in effect until September 2010.

As public participation in the study of dead migratory birds is necessary to help conduct surveys on avian viruses, it is permitted to temporarily possess dead migratory birds to allow for swift delivery of such birds to provincial or territorial authorities for analysis. The Government of Canada is responsible, under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, to ensure that migratory birds are protected and conserved, and testing dead birds is believed to be the most effective method available for the detection of avian viruses.

What you need to do if you find a dead migratory bird:

Call the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre at 1-800-567-2033

Visit the Public Health Agency of Canada website at www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos-eng.php for guidance on precautions to take when handling wild birds.

For more information on the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, visit www.ec.gc.ca/alef-ewe/default.asp?lang=en&n=3DF2F089-1

Non-toxic Shot Proposal

It is proposed to amend the *Migratory Birds Regulations* (MBR) and *Wildlife Area Regulations* (WAR) to change the definition of non-toxic shot in such a way as to allow for most new non-toxic shot products.

In 1990, the federal government took steps to progressively reduce the amount of lead deposited into the environment from hunting by creating, in

cooperation with the provinces and territories, non-toxic shot zones for waterfowl hunting. In 1996, the WAR was amended to prohibit the possession of lead shot for hunting in all National Wildlife Areas.

Consequently, all non-toxic shot products must be tested for toxicity by the Canadian Wildlife Service. When a shot product is approved as non-toxic by CWS, no significant detrimental effects are shown on waterfowl or their habitat. As well, non-toxic shot has the same negligible impact on the environment.

Currently, non-toxic shot products are named in the definition of non-toxic shot under the regulations. Each time a new shot product is approved by CWS as non-toxic, it is necessary to amend the definition in the regulations, a complex and time-consuming process.

It is proposed to broaden the definition of non-toxic shot to help to increase choices for hunters, maintain competitiveness among manufacturers and ultimately result in decreased costs.

North American Waterfowl Management Plan – 2011/12 Plan Revision

(drafted by the NAWMP Revision Steering Committee)

The North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP or Plan), first signed in 1986, has remained a leading model for other international conservation plans. In large measure, this is because it is a living and evolving document that is updated periodically with engagement of the broad waterfowl conservation community. This important work is underway again with a target date of January 1, 2012, for completion.

Today we face greater pressures on waterfowl populations and habitat than ever before, including expanding human populations; increased urbanization; global demands for food, energy and fresh water; and climate change. It is urgent, given these challenges, that waterfowl managers review and re-establish their fundamental conservation goals—something that has not been done in a quarter-century. This is our opportunity to provide the framework for a more coherent waterfowl management system that will enable us to achieve essential conservation goals.

In March 2009, the Plan Committee formed the NAWMP Revision Steering Committee to serve as a focal point for gathering, vetting and synthesizing ideas from the waterfowl management community and to advise the Plan Committee on the content of the Plan Revision.

Why change? Why now?

We need to

- Address the environmental challenges of our time
- Harness recent advancements in science and public policy to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our conservation actions
- Be more accountable and responsive to the values and goals that are important to stakeholders and funders
- To contribute to advancements in wildlife management in North America

An expanded purpose

In 2004, the Plan community agreed to the following overarching statement:

The purpose of the Plan is to sustain abundant waterfowl populations by conserving landscapes, through partnerships that are guided by sound science.

Abundant waterfowl populations were thus described as the Plan's ultimate goal, to be accomplished through science-based habitat conservation. In the 2011/12 Plan Revision, a more inclusive purpose for waterfowl conservation will reflect the broad range of fundamental goals of Plan stakeholders. In the interim, the Plan Committee has proposed the following expanded purpose statement, which is consistent with the intent of the original 1986 Plan (i.e., achieving waterfowl population goals to meet public demand):

The purpose of the Plan is to sustain abundant waterfowl populations while preserving the traditions of wildfowling and achieving broad benefits to biodiversity, ecosystem processes and the people of North America. Plan goals will be accomplished by partnerships that conserve habitats and sustain populations, guided by sound science.

A vision for integrated waterfowl management

This revision of the Plan will seek to implement a unified system of waterfowl conservation that features explicit and coherent objectives to guide habitat and harvest programs, and the means for coordinated actions to realize those objectives. Such a management system would feature:

1. A set of widely supported fundamental goals for waterfowl conservation that clearly reflect stakeholder values;

2. A decision framework that allows managers to understand and balance tradeoffs among these multiple fundamental goals; and
3. Managers using that decision framework to efficiently allocate resources to achieve those goals.

Derived from those broad fundamental goals and underpinning such a system would be:

- Population objectives that are attainable and will satisfy hunters and other stakeholders.
- Habitat objectives that support the population sizes and stakeholder experiences we desire, along with other ecological values from conserved habitat.
- Levels of public participation and satisfaction that will sustain societal support for habitats, populations and conservation activities at desired levels.

The decisions supported by this framework would guide allocation of human and financial resources for the attainment of agreed-upon goals. Such decisions would be made at multiple scales—local, regional, state/provincial, national and international. Developing the means to inform such decisions at all these levels will take time and both technical and administrative support. Full realization of this ambitious vision cannot be fully accomplished during this Plan Revision. However, important strides can be made in this direction.

Process

A critical step for the 2011/12 Plan Revision is to achieve consensus about the fundamental goals of waterfowl management: *At the highest level, what does the waterfowl conservation community want to achieve for waterfowl populations, habitats and people*? This process will be iterative, highly transparent and well documented. It will include an essential array of waterfowl conservation stakeholders. It will draw upon well-developed decision processes that allow stakeholders to identify and clarify fundamental goals and available management actions at the highest strategic level. This process should result in broadly supported goals for waterfowl management that lead to development of an effective suite of integrated conservation actions for achieving those goals.

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Appendices

Appendix A. Special Conservation Measures for Spring 2010

MEASURES IN QUEBEC CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	District A	May 1 to June 30 and September 1 to December 10	Recorded bird calls (*d*), (*f*)
2.	District B	First Saturday after September 11 to the first Saturday after December 25	Recorded bird calls (*d*), (*f*)
3.	Districts C and D	April 1 to May 31 (*a*), September 1 to the Friday before the first Saturday after September 11 (*a*) the first Saturday after September 11 to the first Saturday after December 25	Recorded bird calls (*d*), (*f*)
4.	District E	April 1 to May 31 (*a*), September 1 to the Friday before the first Saturday after September 11 (*a*) the first Saturday after September 11 to the first Saturday after December 25	Recorded bird calls (*d*), (*f*); bait or bait crop area (*e*)
5.	Districts F	April 1 to May 31 (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), September 6 to the Friday before the first Saturday after September 18 (*a*) the first Saturday after September 18 to the first Saturday after January 1 of the following year	Recorded bird calls (*d*), (*f*); bait or bait crop area (*e*)
6.	District G	Last Saturday of September to December 26	Recorded bird calls (*d*), (*f*)

(*a*) Hunting and hunting equipment are allowed only on farmland.

(*b*) In District F, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the road right-of-way of Route 132 between the western limit of Montmagny municipality and the eastern limit of Cap-Saint-Ignace municipality.

(*c*) In District F, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt north of the St. Lawrence River and south of a line located at 1000 m north of Highway 40 between Montée St-Laurent and the Maskinongé River. On the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the railroad right-of-way located near Route 132 between the Nicolet River in the east and Lacerte Road in the west.

(*d*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

(*e*) Hunting with bait or in a bait crop area is permitted if the Regional Director has given consent in writing pursuant to section 23.3.

(*f*) The decoys used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls must represent only white-phase Snow Geese in adult or juvenile plumage (white or gray).

MEASURES IN MANITOBA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	Zone 1	April 1 to May 31 and August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls (*a*) (b)
2.	Zone 2	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (*a*) (b)
3.	Zone 3	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (*a*) (b)
4.	Zone 4	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (*a*) (b)

(*a*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

MEASURES IN SASKATCHEWAN CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	East of 106° W Longitude	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (*a*) (b)
2.	West of 106° W Longitude	April 1 to April 30	Recorded bird calls (*a*) (b)

(*a*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

MEASURES IN NUNAVUT CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	Throughout Nunavut	May 1 to June 7	Recorded bird calls (*a*)(*b*)
2.	Throughout Nunavut	August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls (*a*), (*b*)

(*a*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

Appendix B. Objectives and Guidelines for the Establishment of National Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Hunting

(Revised June 1999 and updated December 2001 by the Canadian Wildlife Service Executive Committee)

A. Description of Regulations

The *Migratory Birds Regulations* are part of the regulations respecting the protection of migratory birds in general, as mandated by the *Migratory Birds Convention* (MBC). According to the *MBC Act, 1994*, the Governor in Council may make regulations providing for:

1. The periods during which, or the geographic areas in which, migratory birds may be killed.
2. The species and number of migratory game birds that a person may kill in any period when doing so is permitted by the regulation.
3. The manner in which migratory game birds may be killed and the equipment that may be used.
4. The periods in each year during which a person may have in possession migratory game birds killed during the season when the taking of such birds was legal, and the number of birds that may be possessed.

This document deals with these four aspects of regulation, although the *Migratory Birds Regulations* deal with other areas as well.

B. Guiding Principles

Guiding principles for migratory bird hunting regulations include those laid out in the Guidelines for Wildlife Policy in Canada as approved by the Wildlife Ministers at the Wildlife Ministers Conference, 30 September 1982. In particular, the most relevant principles are:

1. The maintenance of viable natural wildlife stocks always takes precedence over their use.
2. Canadians are temporary custodians, not the owners, of their wildlife heritage.
3. Canadians are free to enjoy and use wildlife in Canada, subject to laws aimed at securing its sustainable enjoyment and use.
4. The cost of management essential to preserving viable populations of wildlife should be borne by all Canadians; special management measures required to permit intensive uses should be supported by the users.
5. Wildlife has intrinsic, social and economic values, but wildlife sometimes causes problems that require management.
6. Conservation of wildlife relies upon a well-informed public.

C. Objectives of the Migratory Game Birds Hunting Regulations

1. To provide an opportunity for Canadians to hunt migratory game birds, by establishing hunting seasons. Guidelines for hunting regulations are described in Section D. Briefly, regulations should be based on a number of features specific to the geographic area under consideration. Factors such as the timing of arrival and departure of migrating birds, the status of local breeding populations, fledging of local broods and completion of the moult of successfully breeding females, and other special issues such as the status of species, should be used to determine the most effective hunting regulations. Sometimes regulations may need to be based on the species of highest conservation concern.
2. To manage the take of migratory game birds at levels compatible with the species' ability to sustain healthy populations consistent with the available habitat throughout their range.
3. To conserve the genetic diversity within migratory game bird populations.

4. To provide hunting opportunity in various parts of Canada within the limits imposed by the abundance, migration, and distribution patterns of migratory bird populations, and with due respect for the traditional use of the migratory game bird resource in Canada.

5. To limit the accidental killing of a migratory game bird species requiring protection because of poor population status, where there is a reasonable possibility that a hunter might confuse that species with another for which there is an open season.

6. To assist, at times and in specific locations, in the prevention of damage to natural habitat or depredation of agricultural crops by migratory game birds.

D. Guidelines for the Regulations on Migratory Game Bird Hunting

1. Regulations shall be established according to the requirements of the *Migratory Birds Convention* and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994.*

2. Regulations shall address the Principles of Section B and the Objectives of Section C.

3. Unless needs dictate otherwise, hunting regulations will be changed as little as possible from year to year.

4. Regulations should be simple and readily enforceable.

5. Where a conflict arises between allocation of harvest among jurisdictions and the conservation of migratory game bird populations, the conservation objective shall take precedence.

6. When uncertainty exists about the status of a migratory game bird population, a precautionary approach will be taken in establishing sustainable hunting regulations.

7. Hunting regulations may not discriminate among Canadian hunters based on their province or territory of residence. This guideline does not preclude recognition of Aboriginal rights.

8. Regulations should be consistent in jurisdictions where important concentration areas for staging waterfowl straddle borders.

9. Where possible, regional, national and international harvest strategies will be developed among management agencies that share populations. Regulations will be designed to meet mutual targets for harvest, harvest rate or population size.

10. Specific regulation changes will be developed through a process of co-management and public consultation with other interested groups and individuals.

11. Hunting regulations should be consistent with terms of agreements in Aboriginal land claim settlements.

E. Regulatory Process

Regulations may be established each year in one of two ways: selection of a regulatory package from a pre-established set of possible packages, or through an annual regulatory consultation process.

Pre-established sets of regulatory alternatives:
Regulatory alternatives may be pre-established according to the guidelines outlined in section D, with the selection made in any year based on a predetermined set of conditions. For example, a set of three regulatory packages with decreasing harvest rates could be described: liberal, moderate and restrictive. The criteria for annual selection among the alternatives could be based on the results of population surveys. This method would reduce the time required to conduct the usual annual process, simplify the implementation of multi-jurisdictional harvest strategies, and increase the predictability of regulations.

Annual regulatory process:
The Minister of Environment must be in a position to proceed with any changes to the *Migratory Birds Regulations* for the upcoming hunting season by the second Monday in June. To ensure that the regulations are made with the best possible advice, a broad process of consultation must be carried out. Reports produced as part of this process may be obtained from Regional Directors, Canadian Wildlife Service, or the Director of Population and Conservation Management Division at the national office of the Canadian Wildlife Service.

1. The Canadian Wildlife Service, national office, issues a status report on migratory game bird populations at the beginning of December. This report describes the biological information available to

determine the status of each population.

2. Regional officials (biologists and management) of the Canadian Wildlife Service and provincial and territorial wildlife officials will consult with non-government organizations and interested individuals on issues related to hunting regulations for the coming season. To ensure that all parties have access to the best possible biological information, the *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada* report may be used as an aid.

3. The initial suggestions for regulation changes will be developed through regional consultation processes. These processes may vary among regions, but should include active participation by provincial and territorial wildlife agencies, wildlife co-management boards and affected stakeholders. The changes, with rationale and predicted effect (Section F) are described in a regulation report issued at the beginning of January from the national office entitled *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations*. This report allows inter-regional and international consideration of proposed changes.

4. Public and organizational comments on the proposals outlined in the *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations* report should be sent to the appropriate Regional Director, or the Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service.

5. Final regulation proposals, incorporating input from the consultations, are submitted from the Regional Directors to the Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service, by the end of March.

6. The regulation proposals are moved, by the national office, through the regulatory process for consideration by the government beginning in June.

7. Population surveys are carried out throughout the year. From time to time these surveys may show an unexpected change in migratory game bird populations that require a sudden revision to the national regulation proposals.

8. The final regulations, as approved by the Governor-in-Council are described in a report, entitled *Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations in Canada*, which is distributed to all involved parties at the beginning of September. Each purchaser of a migratory game bird hunting permit receives a summary of the regulations for that province.

F. Items to Be Addressed in Regulatory Proposals

Proposals to change migratory game bird hunting regulations should address the following questions:

1. What is the goal of the regulatory change?
2. How does the change address the Objectives and Guidelines set out in this document?
3. What is the predicted effect of the proposal? An analysis based on existing data sources should be included.
4. How will the actual effect of the regulatory change be measured?

The proposals should be as concise as possible, while still including the required elements. A simplified rationale would apply for regulations that carry out previously negotiated harvest strategies and agreements.

Appendix C. Regulations amending the *Migratory Birds Regulations* (Mobility-Impaired Hunting)

AMENDMENT

1. Section 15 of the *Migratory Birds Regulations*1 is amended by adding the following after subsection (1.1):

(1.2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1)(*e*), a mobility-impaired person may hunt from an aircraft, a sailboat, a powerboat or a vehicle referred to in that paragraph if it is stationary and if the person
(*a*) is authorized, under the laws of the province where the hunting occurs, to hunt in a manner described in that paragraph, if those laws provide for such an authorization; and
(*b*) has a medical certificate referred to in subsection (1.3), in any other case.

(1.3) The medical certificate must
(*a*) be signed by a medical practitioner lawfully entitled to practise medicine in any province;
(*b*) attest to the person's impairment of mobility because of a condition that is not temporary in nature and that severely limits the use of their legs, including being paraplegic, being hemiplegic, being dependent on a wheelchair to move about, having prostheses on both legs and having a leg amputated above the knee; and
(*c*) attest that the practitioner is not aware of any medical reason to believe that the person is not capable of operating, in a competent manner, the weapon that they use to hunt.

Appendix D. 2009 Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries by Province and Territory

See the following pages for the summaries. The summaries are also available on the CWS national Web site at www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/publications/reg/index_e.cfm.

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Newfoundland and Labrador

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

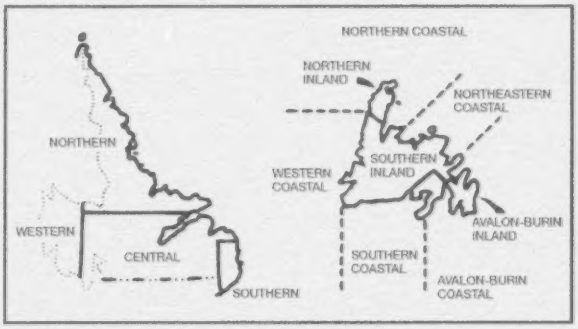
Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Environment Canada
Wildlife Enforcement Division
Lewisporte, Newfoundland and Labrador A0G 3A0
P.O. Box 1201
Tel.: 709-535-0601, Lewisporte
Tel.: 709-772-5585, St. John's
Fax: 709-535-2743
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Waterfowl and Snipe Hunting Zones



"Coastal" refers to that portion of the coast lying within 100 metres of the mean ordinary high-water mark, including the coastal portions of offshore islands and the adjacent marine coastal waters.

Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions. Migratory bird hunters hunting within Nunatsiavut should contact the Nunatsiavut Government (709-896-8582) for additional information on access to Labrador Inuit Lands and additional hunting regulations. A map of the Labrador Inuit Land Claim can be found at: www.laa.gov.nl.ca/laa.

Migratory bird hunters: Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, murres (turrs), and Mourning Doves.

The bag and possession restrictions for Barrow's Goldeneye implemented in 2007 remain in place.

Murre (turr) hunters: All hunters must purchase and be in possession of a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and a Habitat Conservation Stamp while hunting murres. This hunt is only open to **residents** of Newfoundland and Labrador. Murres are the only migratory bird that can be legally hunted from a power boat. Any occupant of a boat who shoots or retrieves murres, or anyone who operates a boat to pursue murres, is hunting as defined in the Migratory Birds Regulations and is **required** to hold a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit.

Sunday hunting: The Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations allow hunting for migratory birds (ducks, geese, snipe, and murres) on Sundays; however, Sunday hunting has been prohibited by the province. In 2006, the province brought in new regulations that allow Sunday hunting during specific periods of the year. Please contact the province for further information on Sunday hunting.

Waterfowler Heritage Days: Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practice hunting skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

CRIME STOPPERS

Hunting violations may be reported to the Canadian Wildlife Service office, your local RCMP detachment, or Crime Stoppers (1-800-363-8477).

OPEN SEASONS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks****)

Area	Ducks, including mergansers (other than Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters), geese, and snipe	Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters
All coastal zones	Third Saturday in September to last Saturday in December; Waterfowler Heritage Day: Second Saturday of September	Fourth Saturday of November to last day of February
All inland zones	Third Saturday in September to last Saturday in December; Waterfowler Heritage Day: Second Saturday of September	No open season

* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.
** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers	Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	6	6	5	10
Possession	12(*b*)	12	12	10	20

(*a*) Not more than four may be American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.
** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

OPEN SEASONS IN LABRADOR (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks****)

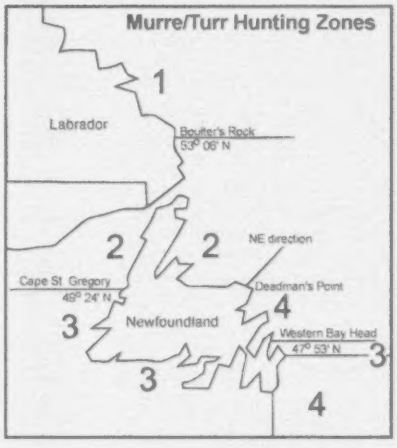
Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks** and eiders), geese, and snipe	Eiders
Northern Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	Last Saturday in September to second Saturday in January
Western Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	No open season
Southern Labrador Zone	Second Saturday in September to third Saturday in December; Waterfowler Heritage Day: First Saturday in September	Fourth Saturday in November to last day of February
Central Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	Last Saturday in October to last Saturday in November and first Saturday in January to last day of February

** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN LABRADOR

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers, scoters, and eiders	Geese	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	6	5	10
Possession	12(*b*)	12	10	20

(*a*) Not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.



OPEN SEASONS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murres/Turrs)

Area	Murres
Zone No. 1	September 1 to December 16
Zone No. 2	October 6 to January 20
Zone No. 3	November 25 to March 10
Zone No. 4	November 3 to January 10 and February 2 to March 10

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murres/Turrs)

Limits	Murres
Daily bags	20
Possession	40

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CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263) OR GO TO: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

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Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Prince Edward Island

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Head of Enforcement
Environment Canada
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: 506-364-5044
Fax: 506-364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

For conservation purposes, the maximum daily bag of one Barrow's Goldeneye and maximum possession limit of two Barrow's Goldeneye was instituted in Prince Edward Island in 2007. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make unintentional shooting illegal; however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrow's Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrow's Goldeneye. These regulations have been put in place to provide additional protection to this population, currently listed as a species of special concern in Schedule 1 (List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practice hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

CRIME STOPPERS

The Canadian Wildlife Service has joined forces with Prince Edward Island Crime Stoppers to address offences concerning migratory birds. Anyone wishing to report illegal hunting activities, illegal selling of birds, or other offences related to migratory birds is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-566-TIPS (8477). Your call is anonymous, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

OPEN SEASONS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND **(No open season for Harlequin Ducks)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and Geese	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks, Eiders and Scoters), Snipe and Geese	Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Eiders and Scoters	Woodcock
Throughout the Province of Prince Edward Island	September 19 (Waterfowler Heritage Day)	October 5 to December 12	October 5 to December 31	September 28 to December 12

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks, Eiders and Scoters)	Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Eiders and Scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	6(*c*)	5	8	10
Possession	12(*b*)	12(*d*)	10	16	20

(*a*) Not more than four may be Mallard–American Black Duck hybrids or American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be Mallard–American Black Duck hybrids or American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*c*) Not more than four may be Scoters.
(*d*) Not more than eight may be Scoters.

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Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Head of Enforcement
Environment Canada
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: 506-364-5044
Fax: 506-364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Use of bait prior to and during the migratory bird hunting season is prohibited. Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions, such as Sunday closures.

For conservation purposes, the maximum daily bag of one Barrow's Goldeneye and maximum possession limit of two Barrow's Goldeneye was instituted in Nova Scotia in 2007. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make unintentional shooting illegal; however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrow's Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrow's Goldeneye. These regulations have been put in place to provide additional protection to this population, currently listed as a species of special concern in Schedule 1 (List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

In National Wildlife Areas located in Nova Scotia, the following regulations apply. Refer to notices posted at entrances for area-specific rules.

- Vehicles, ATVs and snowmobiles are prohibited unless otherwise posted.
- Vegetation may not be cut or damaged. Fires are not permitted. Camping is not permitted.
- The construction and use of tree stands is prohibited.
- Domestic animals may not be allowed to run at large.
- Outboard motors greater than 9.9 horsepower are not permitted.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practice hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

CRIME STOPPERS

Hunting violations may be reported to the CWS office, your local RCMP detachment, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-565-2224, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-422-8477.

OPEN SEASONS IN NOVA SCOTIA **(No open season for Harlequin Ducks)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Additional seasons for Common and Red-breasted mergansers	Additional seasons for Long-tailed Ducks**, eiders, and scoters in coastal waters only	Additional seasons for scaup, goldeneyes, and Buffleheads	Geese	Woodcock and snipe
Zone No. 1*	Sept. 19	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31	No additional season	No additional season	No additional season	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 2*	Sept. 19	Oct. 8 to Dec. 31	Oct. 1 to Oct. 7 and Jan. 1 to Jan. 7 (in coastal waters only)	Oct. 1 to Oct. 7 and Jan. 1 to Jan. 7	Jan. 1 to Jan. 7	Oct. 8 to Jan. 15	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 3*	Sept. 19	Oct. 8 to Dec. 31	Jan. 1 to Jan. 7	No additional season	Jan. 1 to Jan. 7	Oct. 8 to Jan. 15	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30

* "Zone No. 1" means the counties of Antigonish, Pictou, Colchester, Cumberland, Hants, Kings, and Annapolis.
"Zone No. 2" means the counties of Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, Lunenburg, Halifax, Guysborough, Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness, and Richmond, except the area described under Zone 3.
"Zone No. 3" means Bras d'Or Lake and all waters draining into Bras d'Or Lake including waters on the lake side of the highway bridge on Great Bras d'Or at Seal Islands (Highway No. 105), at St. Peters on St. Peters Inlet (Highway No. 4), and at Bras d'Or on St. Andrews Channel (Highway No. 105).
** Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NOVA SCOTIA

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	5	5	8	10
Possession	12(*b*)	10	10	16	20

(*a*) Not more than four may be American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

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Environment Canada Environnement Canada

New Brunswick

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

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Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: 506-364-5044
Fax: 506-364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions, such as Sunday closures, the 1:00 p.m. closure for Tabusintac and Tracadie lagoons, the requirement to use a dog while hunting woodcock during September, etc.

Hunting Zones

Zone No. 1
Saint John County south of No. 1 Highway and west of Saint John Harbour, that part of Charlotte County lying south of No. 1 Highway, and the Grand Manan Islands and Campobello Island, except the following area, which is closed to hunting: the area in the Bay of Fundy known as The Wolves, including the surrounding waters.

Zone No. 2
The remainder of the Province of New Brunswick, except the following, which are closed to hunting: the estuary of the Tabusintac River, Bathurst Basin and most of Bathurst Harbour (two islands remain open and signs have been posted to indicate their locations), and the Dalhousie shoreline from the eastern tip of Dalhousie Island to the mouth of the Miller Brook and extending one kilometre offshore.

For conservation purposes, the maximum daily bag of one Barrow's Goldeneye and maximum possession limit of two Barrow's Goldeneye was instituted in New Brunswick in 2007. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make unintentional shooting illegal; however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrow's Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrow's Goldeneye. These regulations have been put in place to provide additional protection to this population, currently listed as a species of special concern in Schedule 1 (List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

In National Wildlife Areas located in New Brunswick, the following regulations apply. Refer to notices posted at entrances for area-specific rules.

- Vehicles, ATVs and snowmobiles are prohibited unless otherwise posted.
- Vegetation may not be cut or damaged. Fires are not permitted. Camping is not permitted.
- The construction and use of tree stands is prohibited.
- Domestic animals may not be allowed to run at large.
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Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practice hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

CRIME STOPPERS

The Canadian Wildlife Service has joined forces with New Brunswick Crime Stoppers to address offences concerning migratory birds. Anyone wishing to report illegal hunting activities, illegal selling of birds, or other offences related to migratory birds is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Your call is anonymous, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

OPEN SEASONS IN NEW BRUNSWICK **(No open season for Harlequin Ducks)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese (other than Canada Geese and Cackling Geese), and snipe	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese	Additional season for Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders and scoters in coastal waters only	Woodcock
Zone No. 1	Sept. 19	Oct. 15 to Jan. 4	Sept. 8 to Sept. 18(*a*) and Oct. 15 to Jan. 4	Feb. 1 to Feb. 24	Sept. 15 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 2	Sept. 19	Oct. 1 to Dec. 18	Sept. 8 to Sept. 18(*a*) and Oct. 1 to Dec. 18	No additional season	Sept. 15 to Nov. 30

(*a*) In Zone No. 1 and Zone No. 2, hunting for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese is allowed only on farmland.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	6(*c*)	5(*e*)	8	10
Possession	12(*b*)	12(*d*)	10(*e*)	16	20

(*a*) Not more than three may be American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than six may be American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*c*) Not more than four may be scoters, and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 24, not more than four eiders may be taken daily.
(*d*) Not more than eight may be scoters, and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 24, not more than eight eiders may be possessed.
(*e*) A total of three additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily and a total of six additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be possessed from September 8 to September 18 inclusive.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263) OR GO TO: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

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Quebec

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.*

*In Quebec, these signs also identify no-hunting zones.

The information presented here is a summary of the legislation. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the retrieval of birds, description of hunting districts and non-hunting areas, contact:

Canadian Wildlife Service
1141 Route de l'Église
P.O. Box 10100
Sainte-Foy, Quebec G1V 4H5
Tel.: 1-800-668-6767
Fax: 418-649-6475
www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/faune.html

A provincial hunting permit for small game is required to hunt migratory birds in Quebec. While hunting, it is obligatory for hunters to carry their permits with them. Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2009 federal permits.

Non-residents of Canada hunting woodcock have a lower daily bag limit than Canadian hunters.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practice hunting skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

NOTE

In district F, please note that Route 155 and Highway 55 are the boundary line for the different daily bag and possession for Black Ducks. Hunters may obtain useful information on the Barrow's Goldeneye, especially on ways to tell this species apart from the Common Goldeneye, at the following web site: www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/chasse/html/BarrowsGoldeneye.html

The opening hunting date for ducks is September 12 for districts B, C, D and E; September 19 for the new district F; and September 26 for the new district G.

RECOMMENDATION

Canadians can be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN QUEBEC (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks or rails**)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese, woodcock and snipe WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks (other than eiders, Harlequin Ducks and Long-tailed Ducks), geese (other than Canada Geese, Cackling Geese and Snow Geese) and snipe	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese	Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock
A	N/A	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	No open season	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10
B	Sept. 5	Sept. 12 to Dec. 24	Sept. 12 to Dec. 26	Oct. 1 to Jan. 14(*b*)	No open season	Sept. 12 to Dec. 26
C, D and E	Sept. 5	Sept. 12 to Dec. 24(*c*)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 11(*a*) Sept. 12 to Dec. 16	Sept. 12 to Dec. 26	No open season	Sept. 19 to Dec. 26
F	Sept. 12(*d*)	Sept. 19 to Dec. 23(*c*)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 18(*a*) Sept. 19 to Dec. 21	Sept. 19 to Jan. 2	Sept. 19 to Jan. 2	Sept. 19 to Jan. 2
G	Sept. 19	Sept. 26 to Dec. 26	Sept. 26 to Dec. 26	Nov. 1 to Feb. 14	No open season	Sept. 26 to Dec. 26

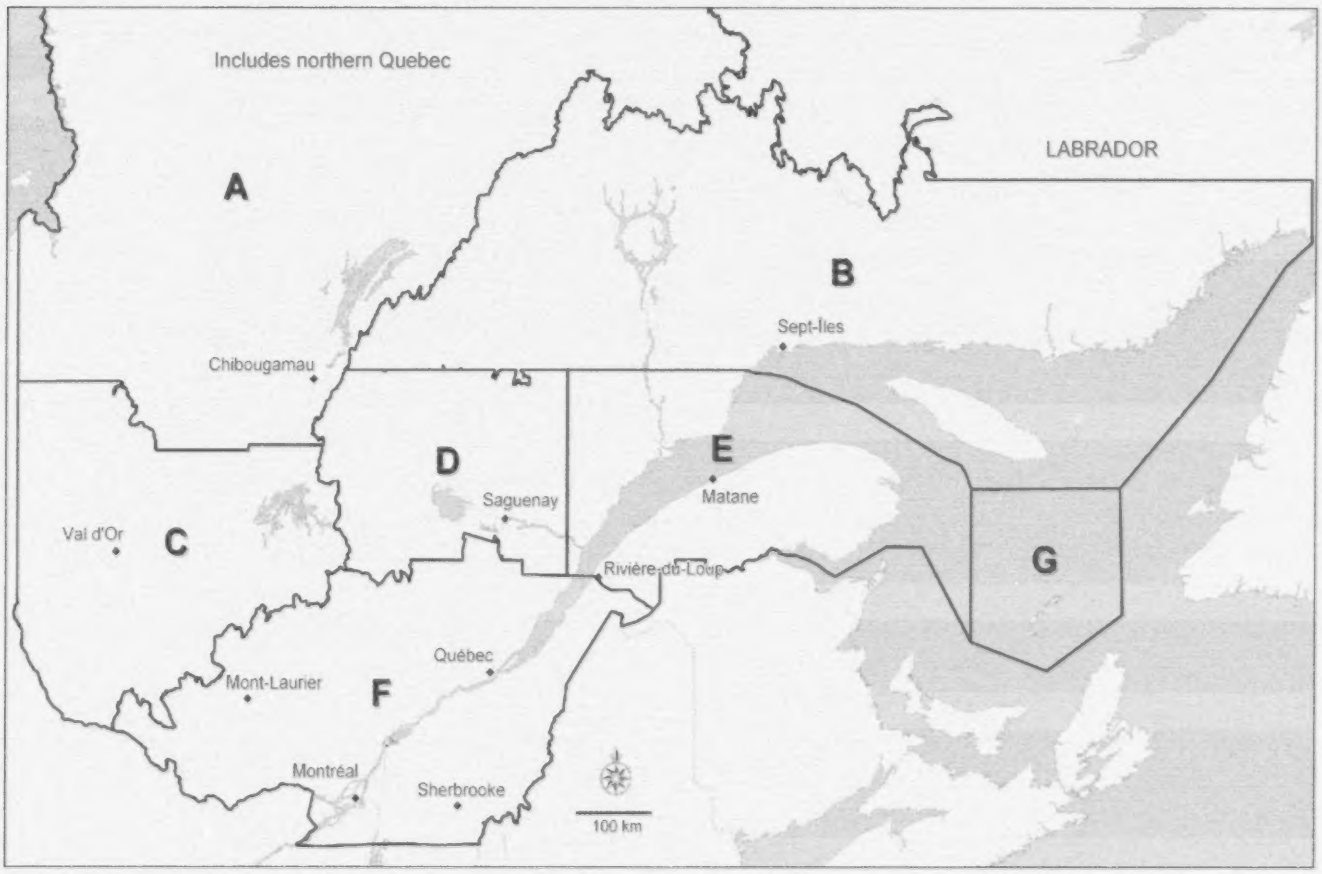
(*a*) In Districts C, D, E and F, hunting for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese is allowed only on farmland.

(*b*) In District B along the North Shore west of the Natashquan River, the hunting seasons for eiders and Long-tailed Ducks are from October 1 to October 24 inclusive and from November 15 to February 5 inclusive.

(*c*) In District E, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneyes and Common Goldeneyes closes on October 21 in Provincial Hunting Zone 21 and 100 metres beyond this zone. In District F, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneyes and Common Goldeneyes closes on October 21 between Pointe Jureux (St. Irénée) and Gros Cap à l'Aigle (St. Fidèle) from routes 362 and 138 to 2 kilometres within Provincial Hunting Zone 21.

(*d*) In District F, hunting for coots and gallinules is allowed during Waterfowler Heritage Day.

Hunting Districts



BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN QUEBEC

Limits	Ducks	Geese (other than Snow Geese)	Snow Geese	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)(*b*)(*c*)(*f*)	5(*d*)(*f*)	20(*f*)	4(*f*)	8(*e*)(*f*)	10(*f*)
Possession	12(*a*)(*b*)(*c*)(*f*)	20	60	8	16	20

(*a*) Not more than four American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of eight in Districts A, B, C, D, E, F (east of Route 155 and Highway 55) and G.

(*b*) Not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of four in District F (west of Route 155 and Highway 55). Beginning on November 1st, not more than four American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of eight in District F (only lying east of the Gatineau River)

(*c*) Not more than one Barrow's Goldeneye or Blue-winged Teal may be taken daily, with a possession limit of two.

(*d*) Not more than 10 Canada Geese, Cackling Geese or any combination of the two may be taken daily between September 1 and 25.

(*e*) For non-residents of Canada, not more than four woodcock may be taken daily.

(*f*) Not more than three birds in total may be taken on Waterfowler Heritage Days. The additional species restrictions described in paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*) continue to apply within this limit.

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that the additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted **only** during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details. Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2009 federal permits.

MEASURES IN QUEBEC CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
District A	May 1 to June 30 and September 1 to December 10	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*)
District B	September 12 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*)
Districts C and D	April 1 to May 31(*a*), September 1 to September 11(*a*), and September 12 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*)
District E	April 1 to May 31(*a*), September 1 to September 11(*a*), and September 12 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*) and bait or bait crop area(*e*)
District F	April 1 to May 31(*a*)(*b*)(*c*), September 6 to September 18(*a*), and September 19 to January 2	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*) and bait or bait crop area(*e*)
District G	September 26 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*)

(*a*) Hunting and hunting equipment are allowed only on farmland.

(*b*) In District F, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the road right-of-way of Route 132 between the western limit of the municipality of Montmagny and the eastern limit of the municipality of Cap-Saint-Ignace.

(*c*) In District F, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt north of the St. Lawrence River and south of a line located at 1 000 m north of Highway 40 between Montée St-Laurent and the Maskinongé River. On the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the railroad right-of-way located near Route 132 between the Nicolet River in the east and Lacerte Road in the west.

(*d*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

(*e*) Hunting with bait or in a bait crop area is permitted if the Regional Director has given consent in writing pursuant to section 23.3.

(*f*) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent only white phase Snow Geese in adult or juvenile plumage (white or gray).

Canada

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Ontario

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
867 Lakeshore Road
P.O. Box 5050
Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A6
Tel.: 905-336-6410
www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife_e.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Note that south of the French and Mattawa Rivers, Sunday gun hunting is permitted by provincial regulations in some municipalities, but not all. Season dates for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese in the Southern District may differ between municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted and those where it is not. Hunters should consult the provincial regulations for information about Wildlife Management Unit boundaries and a list of municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

Hunting Districts

1. **Hudson–James Bay District**
   Wildlife Management Units 1A, 1B, and the portions of Wildlife Management Units 1D, 25, and 26 lying east of longitude 83°45′ and north of latitude 51°
2. **Northern District**
   Wildlife Management Unit 1C, those parts of 1D, 25, and 26 lying west of longitude 83°45′ and south of latitude 51°, and Wildlife Management Units 2 to 24, 27 to 41, and 45
3. **Central District**
   Wildlife Management Units 42 to 44 and 46 to 59
4. **Southern District**
   Wildlife Management Units 60A and 61 to 95

OPEN SEASONS IN ONTARIO **(No open season for Harlequin Ducks)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), Common Moorhens, American Coots, Common Snipe, and geese (other than Canada Geese and Cackling Geese)	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese	Woodcock
1. Hudson–James Bay District	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15
2. Northern District	Sept. 10 to Dec. 25(*a*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 15 to Dec. 15
3. Central District	Sept. 19 to Jan. 3(*b*)	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 20 to Dec. 20
4. Southern District	Sept. 26 to Jan. 10(*c*)	Sept. 10 to Sept. 20(*f*)(*g*), Sept. 26 to Dec. 30(*d*), Sept. 26 to Jan. 8(*e*)(*g*), Feb. 27 to March 6(*e*)(*g*)(*h*)	Sept. 25 to Dec. 20

(*a*) Except for American Black Ducks for which the open season is from September 10 to December 15 inclusive.
(*b*) Except for American Black Ducks for which the open season is from September 19 to December 20 inclusive.
(*c*) Except for American Black Ducks for which the open season is from September 26 to December 20 inclusive.
(*d*) In municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted.
(*e*) In municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is not permitted.
(*f*) Excluding that part of the Township of South Walsingham, south of County Road 42, which includes Long Point.
(*g*) No person shall hunt Canada Geese or Cackling Geese by any means on Sundays during the hunting season in municipalities where Sunday hunting with a gun is not permitted by provincial regulations.
(*h*) Except in Wildlife Management Unit 94.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ONTARIO

Limits	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese	White-fronted Geese and Brant	Snow Geese	Rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), American Coots, Common Snipe, and Common Moorhens	Woodcock
Daily bags	6(*a*)(*b*)(*c*)(*d*)	5(*e*)(*f*)(*g*)(*h*)(*i*)	5	10	10	8
Possession	12 (*a*)(*b*)(*c*)(*d*)	24	10	40	20	16

(*a*) Not more than one American Black Duck may be taken daily and not more than two American Black Ducks may be possessed in Central and Southern districts and not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily and not more than four American Black Ducks may be possessed in Hudson–James Bay and Northern districts.
(*b*) Not more than four Canvasbacks may be taken daily and not more than eight Canvasbacks may be possessed.
(*c*) Not more than four Redheads may be taken daily and not more than eight Redheads may be possessed.
(*d*) Not more than one Barrow's Goldeneye may be taken daily and not more than two Barrow's Goldeneye may be possessed.
(*e*) A total of not more than three Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in that portion of Wildlife Management Unit 1D in Hudson–James Bay District, and in Wildlife Management Units 23 to 31 and 37 to 41 from September 10 to December 16.
(*f*) A total of not more than two Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Unit 94 from September 26 to January 8.
(*g*) A total of not more than three Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Units 82 to 86 and 93 from September 26 to October 31.
(*h*) A total of five additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Units 36 and 45 from September 1 to September 9; in Wildlife Management Units 42 to 44 and 46 to 59 from September 8 to September 18; in Wildlife Management Units 60 to 81, 87 to 92 and 95 from September 10 to September 20; and in municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is not permitted in Wildlife Management Units 60 to 81 and 87 to 92, from February 27 to March 6.
(*i*) A total of three additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Units 82 to 86, 93 and 94 from September 10 to September 20 and in municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is not permitted in Wildlife Management Units 82 to 86 and 93 from February 27 to March 6.

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Manitoba

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting zones, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
Suite 150
123 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4W2
Tel.: 204-983-5263
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Game Bird Hunting Zones

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practice hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN MANITOBA

Game Bird Hunting Zone	Ducks and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks, Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, coots, and snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Sandhill Cranes RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snow and Ross's geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Zone No. 1	N/A	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31(*b*)	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31(*b*)
Zone No. 2	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(*b*)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30(*a*)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(*b*)
Zone No. 3	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(*b*)	Sept. 28 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 21 to Nov. 30(*b*)
Zone No. 4	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(*b*)	Sept. 28 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 21 to Nov. 30(*b*)

(*a*) In provincial Game Hunting Areas (GHAs) 6 and 6A only.
(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN MANITOBA

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada, Cackling, and White-fronted geese, and Brant)	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(*a*)	8(*c*)	20	5	5	8	10
Possession	16(*b*)	16(*d*)	80	15	10	16	20

(*a*) In Zone 4 for residents, not more than four may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(*b*) In Zone 4 for residents, not more than eight may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(*c*) In Zone 4 for non-residents, not more than two may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(*d*) In Zone 4 for non-residents, not more than four may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.

NOTE

The open season for hunting geese by non-residents of Canada in Game Bird Hunting Zone 4, and the Provincial Game Hunting Areas 13A, 14, 14A, all that portion of Game Hunting Area 16 south of the north limit of township 33, Game Hunting Areas 18, 18A, 18B, 18C, 19, 19A, 19B, 20, 21A, 23A, and 25 as described in Manitoba Regulation 220/86 as filed on September 25, 1986, includes only that part of each day from one half-hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from the opening date (fourth Monday of September) up to and including the second Sunday of October, and thereafter geese may be hunted from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset. However, during the first week of the non-resident Snow and Ross's goose season (beginning on the third Monday of September), these species may be hunted from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset.

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details.

NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2009 federal permits.

MEASURES IN MANITOBA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
Zone 1	April 1 to May 31 and August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls(*a*)(*b*)
Zones 2, 3, and 4	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls(*a*)(*b*)

(*a*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to the Snow Goose call.
(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese. If those recordings are used with decoys, the decoys must represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them only.

Canada

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CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263) OR GO TO: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

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Saskatchewan

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

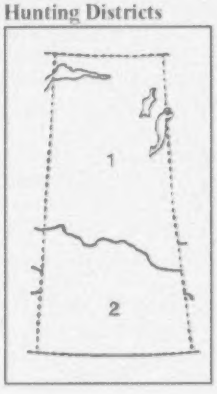
The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
115 Perimeter Road
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0X4
Tel.: 306-975-4919
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Hunting Districts



District No. 1 (North)
Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 43 and 47 to 76 inclusive.

District No. 2 (South)
Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 1 to 42 inclusive and 44 to 46 inclusive.

NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2009 federal permits.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN SASKATCHEWAN

District	Ducks, coots, and snipe	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese) NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Dark geese (Canada, Cackling, and White-fronted geese) NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Sandhill Cranes
No. 1 (North)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*d*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*d*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
No. 2 (South)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*a*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*b*)(*d*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*d*)	Sept. 10 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*c*)

(*a*) Falconry season is open from September 1 to December 16 inclusive.
(*b*) Except White-fronted Geese, the season for residents of Canada for White-fronted Geese is from September 10 to December 16 inclusive.
(*c*) The Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all Sandhill Crane hunting.
(*d*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

NOTE

The open season for geese for residents and non-residents of Canada in District No. 2 (South), and the Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 43, 47 to 59 inclusive, and 67 to 69 inclusive, of District No. 1 (North), includes only that part of each day from one half-hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from September 1 to October 14, inclusive, and on and after October 15 geese may be hunted from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset, except east of 106 degrees west longitude, where, on and after September 1, white geese (Snow and Ross's geese) may be hunted from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset. Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all hunting until September 20.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN SASKATCHEWAN

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark Geese (Canada, Cackling, and White-fronted geese)	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(*a*)	20	8(*c*)	5	10	10
Possession	16(*b*)	60	16(*d*)	10	20	20

(*a*) Not more than three may be Northern Pintails.
(*b*) Not more than six may be Northern Pintails.
(*c*) For residents of Canada, not more than four may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Canada, not more than three may be White-fronted Geese.
(*d*) For residents of Canada, not more than eight may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Canada, not more than six may be White-fronted Geese.

MEASURES IN SASKATCHEWAN CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
East of 106° W longitude	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (*a*), (*b*)
West of 106° W longitude	April 1 to April 30	Recorded bird calls (*a*), (*b*)

(*a*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

Cranes

Where the Director General of the Canadian Wildlife Service or the Chief Provincial Game Officer of Saskatchewan is of the opinion that Whooping Cranes may be in the Saskatchewan Sandhill Crane Management Area during the open season for Sandhill Cranes in that area, such officer may prohibit the hunting of Sandhill Cranes in that area, and thereafter no person shall hunt or kill Sandhill Cranes in that area in that year.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263) OR GO TO: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

EcoLogo

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada

Alberta

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting zones, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
4999-98 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3
Tel.: 780-951-8891
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Hunting Zones

Hunters are advised to pay particular attention to the Alberta Hunting Guide to ensure that they are hunting for the correct species in the correct wildlife management unit during the permitted times and dates. Note that these zone numbers do not correspond to regions as presented in the Guide.

Waterfowler Heritage Days: Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practice hunting skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN ALBERTA

Area	Ducks, Coots and Snipe	White Geese (Snow and Ross's Geese)	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese)	Waterfowler Heritage Days	Falconry Season for Ducks, Coots, and Snipe
Zones* 1(*a*), 2, 3, 4, and 8	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*b*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16		Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
Zones* 5, 6, and 7	Sept. 8 to Dec. 21	Sept. 8 to Dec. 21(*b*)	Sept. 8 to Dec. 21	Sept. 5 to Sept. 6	Sept. 8 to Dec. 21

* "**Zone No. 1**" means that part of Alberta included in Provincial Wildlife Management Units (PWMUs) 501 to 506, 509 to 512, 514 to 519, 529 to 532, and 841.
"**Zone No. 2**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 344, 347, 349 to 360, 520 to 528, 534 to 537, 539 to 542, and 544.
"**Zone No. 3**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 200, 202 to 204, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, and 500.
"**Zone No. 4**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 206, 208, 216, 220 to 222, 224, 226, 228, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336 to 340, 342, 346, 348, 429, 507, 508, and 936.
"**Zone No. 5**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 151, 160, 162 to 164, and 166.
"**Zone No. 6**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 152, 156, 158, 210, 212, 214, 300, 302 to 306, 308, 310, 312, and 314.
"**Zone No. 7**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 144, 148, and 150.
"**Zone No. 8**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 316, 318, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416 to 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436 to 442, 444 to 446.

(*a*) Except that Alberta Wildlife Management Unit 841 in Zone 1 has an opening date of September 15.

(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ALBERTA

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese)	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(*a*)	20	8(*c*)	10	10
Possession	16(*b*)	60	16(*d*)	20	20

(*a*) Not more than four may be Northern Pintails.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be Northern Pintails.
(*c*) For Canadian residents, not more than five may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Canada, not more than three may be White-fronted Geese.
(*d*) For Canadian residents, not more than 10 may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Canada, not more than six may be White-fronted Geese.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263) OR GO TO: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

EcoLogo

Environment Canada Environnement Canada

British Columbia

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
Pacific Wildlife Research Centre
R.R. 1, 5421 Robertson Road
Delta, British Columbia V4K 3N2
Tel.: 604-940-4710
www.pyrec.gc.ca/en/index.shtml

Hunting Districts

1. Provincial Management Units (PMU) 1-1 to 1-15
2. PMU 2-2 to 2-19
3. PMU 3-12 to 3-20 and 3-26 to 3-44
4. PMU 4-1 to 4-9 and 4-14 to 4-40
5. PMU 5-1 to 5-15
6. PMU 6-1 to 6-30
7. PMU 7-2 to 7-58
8. PMU 8-1 to 8-15 and 8-21 to 8-26

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for Band-tailed Pigeons and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practice hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

District	Ducks and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, coots, and snipe	Snow and Ross's geese	Other geese	Brant	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
No. 1	Oct. 3 and 4	Oct. 10 to Jan. 22	Oct. 10 to Jan. 22	Oct. 10 to Jan. 22(*a*) Sept. 5 to 13(*b*)(*c*) Oct. 10 to Nov. 22 (*b*)(*c*) Dec. 19 to Jan. 10(*b*)(*c*) Feb. 10 to March 10(*b*)(*c*)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30	No open season
No. 2	Sept. 5 and 6(*e*)(*f*) and Oct. 3 and 4(*d*)	Oct. 10 to Jan. 22(*c*)(*g*) Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(*e*)	Oct. 10 to Jan. 3(*h*) Feb. 20 to March 10(*h*)	Oct. 10 to Jan. 22(*i*) Sept. 5 to Sept. 13(*c*)(*j*) Oct. 10 to Nov. 22(*c*)(*j*) Dec. 19 to Jan. 10(*c*)(*j*) Feb. 10 to March 10(*c*)(*j*) Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(*e*)(*k*)	March 1 to March 10(*c*)(*l*)	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30(*m*)	No open season
No. 3	Sept. 5 and 6	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(*n*) Sept. 10 to Sept. 20(*o*) Oct. 1 to Dec. 23(*o*) March 1 to March 10(*o*)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30(*p*)	Sept 1. to Sept. 30
No. 4	Sept. 5 and 6	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	No open season	No open season	Sept 1. to Sept. 30
No. 5	Sept. 12 and 13	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 6	Sept. 5 and 6(*q*)(*r*)	Sept. 1 to 4 and Sept. 7 to Nov. 30(*q*)	Sept. 1 to 4 and Sept. 7 to Nov. 30(*q*)	Sept. 1 to 4 and Sept. 7 to Nov. 30(*q*)	No open season	No open season	No open season
		Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(*r*)	Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(*r*)	Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(*r*)			
No. 7	N/A	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 8	Sept. 5 and 6	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25(*s*) Sept. 20 to Nov. 28(*k*) Dec. 20 to Jan. 5(*k*) Feb. 21 to March 10(*k*)	No open season	No open season	Sept 1. to Sept. 30

(*a*) Provincial Management Units 1-3, and 1-8 to 1-15 inclusive, and for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*b*) Provincial Management Units 1-1, 1-2, and 1-4 to 1-7 inclusive, and for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*c*) See provincial regulations for local restrictions.
(*d*) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive, and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive for Ducks, Canada Geese, and Cackling Geese only, and additionally, in Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only, for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese.
(*e*) Provincial Management Unit 2-11 only.
(*f*) For Ducks, Canada Geese, and Cackling Geese only.
(*g*) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive, and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive.
(*h*) Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only.
(*i*) Provincial Management Units 2-5 to 2-7 inclusive, 2-9, 2-10, and 2-12 to 2-17 inclusive only, and for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*j*) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, and for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*k*) For Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*l*) Provincial Management Unit 2-4 only.
(*m*) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-19 inclusive.
(*n*) Provincial Management Units 3-12 to 3-18 inclusive, 3-30 to 3-35 inclusive, and 3-38 to 3-44 inclusive, for White-fronted, Canada, and Cackling geese, and Provincial Management Units 3-19, 3-20, 3-26 to 3-29 inclusive, 3-36, and 3-37 for White-fronted Geese only.
(*o*) Provincial Management Units 3-19, 3-20, 3-26 to 3-29 inclusive, 3-36, and 3-37, for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*p*) Provincial Management Units 3-13 to 3-17 inclusive.
(*q*) Provincial Management Units 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to 6-10 inclusive, and 6-15 to 6-30 inclusive only.
(*r*) Provincial Management Units 6-3 and 6-11 to 6-14 inclusive only.
(*s*) For White-fronted Geese only.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Coots	Snipe	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
Daily bags	8(*a*)(*c*)(*e*)(*k*)	5(*g*)(*i*), 10(*m*)	10	10	5	5
Possession	16(*b*)(*d*)(*f*)(*l*)	10(*h*)(*j*), 20(*m*)	20	20	10	10

(*a*) Not more than four may be Northern Pintails.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be Northern Pintails.
(*c*) Not more than four may be Canvasbacks.
(*d*) Not more than eight may be Canvasbacks.
(*e*) Not more than two may be goldeneyes.
(*f*) Not more than four may be goldeneyes.
(*g*) Not more than two may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
(*h*) Not more than four may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
(*i*) In Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, a total of five Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, can be taken daily.
(*j*) In Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, a total of 10 Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be had in possession.
(*k*) Not more than two may be Harlequin Ducks.
(*l*) Not more than four may be Harlequin Ducks.
(*m*) For Snow Geese only and in Provincial Management Unit 2-4 only.

Canada

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Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Nunavut

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5204 50th Avenue, Suite 301
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 1E2
Tel.: 867-669-4730
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

NOTE
Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2009 federal permits.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN NUNAVUT

Area	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe
Throughout Nunavut	September 1 to December 10(*a*)

(*a*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

MEASURES IN NUNAVUT CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1	Throughout Nunavut	May 1 to June 7	Recorded bird calls (*a*)(*b*)
2	Throughout Nunavut	August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls (*a*)(*b*)

(*a*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used but, if used with decoys, the decoys may only represent white or blue phase Snow Geese, or any combination of them.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NUNAVUT

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Coots RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bags	25(*c*)(*g*)	8(*c*)(*g*)	15(*b*)(*e*)(*i*)	5(*a*)(*b*)(*e*)(*i*)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit(*d*)(*h*)	16(*d*)(*h*)	No limit(*b*)(*f*)	10(*a*)(*b*)(*f*)(*j*)	No limit	No limit	20

(*a*) Except that non-residents may not take more than two White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than four.
(*b*) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, not more than a total of three Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily, and not more than a total of 24 Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be possessed.
(*c*) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, the daily bag limit for ducks is six, with not more than two American Black Ducks and one Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*d*) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, the possession limit for ducks is 12, with not more than four American Black Ducks and two Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*e*) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15′W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the daily bag limit is 20 Snow Geese, and a total of five other geese.
(*f*) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15′W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the possession limit is 60 Snow Geese, and a total of 20 other geese.
(*g*) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15′W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the daily bag limit for ducks is six, with not more than four American Black Ducks, one Barrow's Goldeneye and one Blue-winged Teal.
(*h*) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15′W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the possession limit for ducks is 12, with not more than eight American Black Ducks, two Barrow's Goldeneye and two Blue-winged Teal.
(*i*) Except that the daily bag limit for Snow Geese is 20.
(*j*) Except that the possession limit for Snow Geese by non-residents is 80.

NOTE

No person shall hunt earlier than one half-hour before sunrise or later than one half-hour after sunset, except north of the 60th parallel, where no person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263) OR GO TO: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

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Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Northwest Territories

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5204 50th Avenue, Suite 301
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 1E2
Tel.: 867-669-4730
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Area	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe
Throughout the Northwest Territories	September 1 to December 10

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Coots RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bags	25	8	15	5(*a*)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit	16	No limit	10(*a*)	No limit	No limit	20

(*a*) Except that non-residents may not take more than two White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than four.

NOTE

No person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263) OR GO TO: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

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Yukon Territory

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2009

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
91782 Alaska Highway
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5B7
Tel.: 867-667-4597
www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/theme.cfm?lang=e&category=6

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

Hunting Areas

Northern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying north of latitude 66°
Central Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying between latitude 62° and 66°
Southern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying south of latitude 62°

OPEN SEASONS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Area	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Northern Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	No open season	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory
Central Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31 for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 for non-residents of the Yukon Territory
Southern Yukon Territory	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(*a*)	5(*b*)	2	0(*c*)	10
Possession	24(*a*)	15(*b*)	4	0(*c*)	30(*d*)

(*a*) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 17 additional ducks may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(*b*) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 10 additional geese may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(*c*) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 25 rails and coots may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(*d*) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory there is no possession limit.

NOTE

No person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

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